

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

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FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9124

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

INFO AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS ABIDJAN 5182

USIAC FOR IAA

E O 11652: NA

TAGS: OEXC, IV

SUBJ: REGIONAL TRACK AND FIELD CLINICS

1. PAO AND CAO MET WEDNESDAY WITH KONAN N'DRI, DIRECTOR OF SPORTS FOR MIN YOUTH AND SPORTS. TO DATE, MIN YOUTH HAS RECEIVED ONLY 2 COMMUNICATIONS FROM SCSA: (A) FORM LETTER OF MAY 7 INVITING PARTICIPATION BY 12 COUNTRIES, INCLUDING INFO ADDRESSEES PLUS ALGERIA, MOROCCO AND TUNISIA; (B) LETTER ASKING FOOD AND LODGING COSTS PER DAY PER PARTICIPANT. (FYI: CFA 1,000) THEY HAVE RECEIVED NO RPT NO OTHER DETAILS ON CLINIC FROM SCSA.

2. DESPITE MEAGRE INFORMATION THUS FAR RECEIVED, MIN YOUTH APPEARS REMARKABLY ENTHUSIASTIC AT PROSPECT OF HOSTING CLINIC. FOLLOWING FACTS SEEM REASONABLY CERTAIN AT THIS TIME:

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A) CLINC WILL BE HELD AT NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF YOUTH

AND SPORTS IN ABIDJAN SUBURB OF MARCORY. FOOD, DORMITORY LODGING, CONFERENCE ROOMS AND PROJECTION FACILITIES WILL BE PROVIDED AT SAME SITE.

B) TO DATE, ONLY NOTICE OF INTENTION TO PARTICIPATE HAS BEEN FOR THREE PARTICIPANTS FROM NIGER. (ON BASIS OF STATE 086419, NOUAKCHOTT 769 AND OUAGA 1047, WE INFORMED N'DRI WE UNDERSTOOD THAT GUINEA AND MAURITANIA NOT PARTICIPATING, AND THAT UPPER VOLTA SENDING THREE PARTICIPANTS.)

C) FROM 10 TO 20 IVORIANS WILL PARTICIPATE. (SPECIALTIES NOT YET DECIDED).

D. HIGH-LEVEL CEREMONY OF UNDERTERMINED NATURE WILL BE HELD TO INAUGURATE CLINIC ON JULY 16.

E) MIN YOUTH WILL AWAIT COOPER'S ARRIVAL JULY 10 TO WORK OUT PROGRAMMING DETAILS.

3. AFTER CAREFUL PERUSAL OF THE 55 CABLES WE HAVE SO FAR RECEIVED ON THIS REMARKABLE UNDERTAKING, WE HAVE CAUTIOUSLY CONCLUDED THAT AT PRESENT ONLY 7 COUNTRIES PLANNED FOR PARTICIPATION IN ABIDJAN CLINIC: DAHOMEY, IVORY COAST, MALI, NIGER, SENEGAL, TOGO, UPPER VOLTA. APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION BY DEPARTMENT N AND SCSA.

4. MIN YOUTH NEEDS INFORMATION ASAP ON FOLLOWING POINTS:

A) DO DAHOMEY, MALI, SENEGAL AND TOGO INTEND PARTICIPATE? IF SO, HOW MANY PARTICIPANTS EACH?

B) WHAT ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR INTERPRETERS? WILL SENEGAL PCV'S BE ABLE FILL THIS FUNCTION PER STATE 123294? (NOTE: MIN YOUTH WILLING ATTEMPT RECRUIT YOUNG IVORIAN ENGLISH TEACHERS AS INTERPRETERS, BUT MUST KNOW HOW MANY ARE NEEDED AND WHETHER SCSA WILLING TO PAY HONORARIA).

C) IS OMO OSAGRE OR OTHER SCSA REP PLANNING VISIT ABIDJAN PRIOR TO CLINIC IN ORDER WORK OUT ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS? IF SO, WHEN?

D) STRONGLY SUGGEST COOPER AND OTHER U.S. PARTICIPANTS STAY AT HOTEL RATHER THAN SPORTS INSTITUTE. (FACILITIES AT INSTITUTE ARE DORMITORY STYLE, AND LACK OF AIR CONDITIONING ONLY PARTIALLY COMPENSATED FOR BY AVAILABILITY OF MOSQUITO UNCLASSIFIED

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NETTING.) SINCE SCSA FUNDING FOOD AND LODGING COSTS FOR AMERICAN AS WELL AS AFRICAN PARTICIPANTS, WHAT PRICE HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS ARE THEY WILLING TO PAY? (FYI: SINGLE ROOM AT MEDIUM-PRICED CENTRAL-LOCATED HOTEL DU PARC, IF AVAILABLE, IS CFA 3,520: DOUBLE IS CFA 2,275 PER PERSON. OTHER SUITABLE HOTELS ARE NOT APPRECIABLY CHEAPER).

5. SINCE WE HEARTILY CONCUR YAOUNDE'S 1764 THAT SCSA

SHOULD RECEIVE FULLEST CREDIT FOR ORGANIZATON OF CLINICS,
WE ATTEMPTING IMPRESS MIN YOUTH THAT OUR MAJOR ROLE IS
LIAISON BETWEEN THEM AND SCSA. WE HAVE THUS SUGGESTED THEY
CABLE SCSA DIRECT REQUESTING ANSWERS TO POINTS RAISED IN
PARA 4 ABOVE. WHILE TRUST SCSA WILL FIND IT CONVENIENT TO
REPLY THERETO, WOULD APPRECIATE DIRECT NOTIFICATION BY
ACTION OR INFO ADDRESSEES OF ANY CLARIFICATION THESE POINTS
THAT THEY ABLE PROVIDE.
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